

FISCAL NOTE

HB 880 - SB 1057

March 29, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes the Department of Safety to negotiate an agreement with federal authorities to train Tennessee Highway Patrol officers to perform immigration law enforcement functions and authorizes trained officers to enforce federal immigration and customs laws in Tennessee. Requires the verification of immigration status before the delivery of public benefits.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$100,000

Other Fiscal Impact – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security will send instructors to Tennessee to train selected officers of the Tennessee Highway Patrol. The costs of the five-week training session will be borne by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The costs of travel and per diem for officers to attend the training and the costs of backfill and over-time to cover such officer's position while attending the training will be paid through federal grants administered through the Tennessee Department of Homeland Security. It is estimated that such costs will exceed \$100,000 for the initial training in the first year and will be less than \$50,000 in subsequent years to cover the costs of continued education and to train any new officers added to the program. Any operational costs, such as investigations and over-time, that the Department of Safety incurs in the execution of a Trooper's duty as an immigration officer will not be covered by federal grants but will be covered by the State. Such costs cannot be quantified but are estimated to be less than \$100,000.

Assumptions:

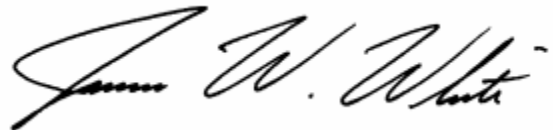
- The Department of Health would have to require verification of immigration status for some primary patients seen in local health departments. This could have a highly adverse impact on public health services if a person leaves without proper medical care.
- Fear of being reported to immigration authorities, even though the person is eligible to receive other health care services, could result in an

impact on department programs such as TB, HIV/AIDS, STD, Prenatal Care, Family Planning and Immunization Services.

- Possible increase in TB, STD, HIV/AIDS diseases affecting the wider population, not just illegal immigrants.
- The Highway Patrol will select thirty-two officers for training, four each per eight THP Districts.
- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security will cover the costs of classroom training.
- Federal grants, administered by the Tennessee Department of Homeland Security, will cover the costs of travel, per-diem, backfill and over-time associated with the training.
- Any time an officer spends conducting immigration duties will reduce the time they have available for patrol and regular enforcement duties. This could result in an increase in over-time expenditures that will be incurred by the State.
- In the event that a non-trained officer needs the assistance of a trained officer and no such trained officer is on duty and must be called-out, the state will incur over-time expenditures.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director